

AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend page 5, line 18 through page 6, line 2 (paragraph 15) as follows:

A' If the switching logic receives an encoded voice packet it routes it to the decoder which then outputs the decoded audio signal to the speaker 226. If the switching logic receives a silence indication packet it routes the comfort noise generator 218 which then generates comfort noise to the speaker 226 until further voice packets are received. Typically, the CF comprises white or pink noise.

Please amend page 12, line 18 through page 13, line 3 (paragraph 46) as follows:

A² The process of FIG. 5 begins with query 500, where the RX unit waits to receive an initial, or first, silence indication packet (SID). When the RX unit receives a first silence packet, the RX unit will begin attenuating (act 502) the background noise contained in the incoming packets and mixing in comfort noise according to the present invention.